

REMARKS

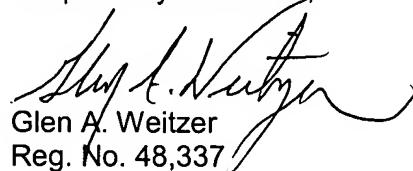
Applicant cancels claims 1-6 and 15-55 such that claims 7-14 are pending in this application. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the pending claims.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has identified in the application four species of the claimed invention as follows: Species I (claims 1-6 and 29-43) directed to a bracket and clip where the clip has a non-uniform thickness or different widths; Species II (claims 7-14) directed to a bracket and clip where the clip comprises at least two different materials; Species III (claims 15-38 and 48-55) directed to a bracket and insert; and Species IV (claims 44-47) directed to a bracket having at least one lateral wing. In response, Applicant elects to prosecute Species II (claims 7-14) without traverse, and Applicant cancels claims 1-6 and 15-55 without prejudice.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should the Examiner determine that such action would facilitate the prosecution and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Glen A. Weitzer
Reg. No. 48,337

Docket No.: 072270-9020-02
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108

(414) 271-6560
X:\clients\072270\9020\F0196405.1